



The Arlington Advocate



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Tieng Nguyen of Arlington Banner and Flag Company sews an American flag after the store sold out them. After the Sept. 11 attacks, many Americans showed their national pride by flying Old Glory.

Cops investigate Bills burglar

BY LES G. MASTERTON
STAFF WRITER

Police are looking for a Buffalo Bills fan, and possibly another man, who allegedly broke into two East Arlington homes Friday.

Though police believe two men may be involved, the only description they have is a white male, 18-22 years old, around 5 feet, 10 inches tall, thin to medium build with short light brown or blond hair. He was reportedly wearing a red, white, and blue Buffalo Bills leather jacket.

A Varnum Street resident reported a burglary after returning home around 6 p.m. Friday. The alleged burglar punched a back door window and reached in to unlock the door, in order to gain entrance, according to Lt. John Serson.

The house was ransacked, but the only items reported missing were keys and loose change, said Serson.

The other incident, on Lafayette Street, was reported the following morning, when a resident returned home after spending the night elsewhere. Entry was gained in the same fashion as the Varnum Street call, smashing a back door window.

She reported that a purse, two laptop computers and a phone,



The police composite of a man wanted for questioning in connection with two burglaries in East Arlington Friday.

which was ripped from the wall, were taken. In addition, an Egerton Road resident later called the resident to say that he found some of the woman's personal papers, including her passport, in Bicentennial Park.

The Lafayette Street resident reported a loss of around \$3,000.

Police blanketed the area to ask residents if they saw anything and distributed flyers with a composite sketch. Police are investigating the cases and have increased patrols in the area, said Serson.

Community stood up to hate in 2001

A look back at Arlington news during the first last months of 2001.

July

- The Housing Corporation of Arlington closed on its first house, located at 2 Smith St. Purchased for \$335,000, the corporation removed lead paint from the house. That necessary step and additional cosmetic improvements will total \$35,000 in repair costs.

When completed, the corporation plans to offer a pair of two-bedroom apartments for \$866,

said Director of Fair Housing and Housing Corporation Board member Laura Weiner.

- The town signed a settlement that ends Officer John Brescia's 15-year career with the Arlington Police Department less than two months after the officer's missing venomous snakes caused panic throughout an East Arlington neighborhood.

In a two-paragraph statement, Town Counsel John Maher wrote that Brescia will be "separating service" with the Police Department on Sept. 1.

ment on Sept. 1.

Up until now, Brescia has been on paid sick leave. In two weeks, Brescia begins to take vacation time he has accumulated until that time.

- Representatives from the Catholic Archdiocese of Boston have shown town officials preliminary plans for a housing development that would be built on property in the Poets Corner neighborhood.

Director of Planning and Community Development Alan McClellenn said he has had discussions since the fall on the possibility of mixed-income housing in the area near St. Camillus parish.

The effort stems from a mandate issued by Cardinal Bernard Law to build 3,000 to 4,000 units of new housing units throughout the Greater Boston area.

The Archdiocese owns a total of 16.72 acres on multiple parcels in Arlington, reported the town Assessor's Office.

McClellenn said the parcel the archdiocese plans to develop rests on about six acres of land that includes the parking lot next to the St. Camillus Church building. He said a preliminary model showed about 60 units of housing.

- For the second straight year, many of cycling's finest converged on Arlington for the BMC Software Tour of Arlington.

It was the second race in the BMC Grand Prix, including races

in Austin and San Francisco. There have also been a number of other races on this year's Pro Cycling Tour.

The purse for the Tour of Arlington was \$15,000 for the men's winner and \$10,000 for the women's.

- Arlington residents, amateur cyclists, and the racing community came together for an hour to remember Nicole Reinhart during an interfaith service at Town Hall.

Reinhart was in the final lap of last year's BMC Software Tour of Arlington bike race when she struck a tree headfirst on Highland Avenue. The 24-year-old cyclist was in the lead pack and nearing a potential payday of \$250,000, since she won the previous three races in the BMC Grand Prix.

Before the service, dozens of cyclists, including Reinhart's mother, Pam, rode 15 miles from Waltham for a memorial ride.

After the service, around 100 people came to the newly-renovated Cutter Park to honor Reinhart and celebrate a new playground.

August

- The Angel Moroni will not fly in this community.

Based on a decision made at the administrative levels of the Mormon Church in Utah, Arlington cannot display the 9-foot tall replica of the angel

■ SEE YEAR IN REVIEW, PAGE 10



Kim Vermilya, 6, and her sister, Diana, 8, listen to a speaker during Arlington Stands Up Against Hate in September. The event was originally organized after The National Alliance dropped literature on residents' doorsteps, which promoted white pride and criticized the country's immigration policy. Police estimated the crowd at the Arlington Stands Up Against Hate event at 2,500.

STAFF PHOTO BY JOHN WALKER

Town officials probe police officer's actions

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

An Arlington police officer may have been staying in Florida for more than two months after being released from active duty in the military, collecting his pay check though not reporting back to work.

Director of Police Services Fred Ryan and Town Counsel John Maher are looking into whether Officer Frank Larder stayed in Florida instead of returning to Arlington and reporting back to his job as a patrol officer.

"He appears to have received an honorable discharge and he didn't report to work. We're treating this just like any other employee not showing up," Maher said. "Of course, we need to follow up on that."

Maher had attempted to contact Larder at his station in Florida to inquire about the status of his active duty during the fall. He was on duty as a member of the Coast Guard stationed in Florida.

Larder is still in Florida and was not available for comment. A local listing for a Frank W. Larder of Needham has been disconnected. Maher said he believed that Larder had rented the property.

"I would think we will have more information and a final resolution of the matter next week," Maher said.

Maher said he found out from a military supervisor that Larder had been discharged "sometime in October."

"I believe that we had some difficulty contacting him to verify how long he would be in," Maher said. "We didn't

know his address down in Florida and we learned from his commanding officer that he had been honorably discharged."

According to Maher, Larder was approaching retirement with the police force.

After the Sept. 11 attacks, Board of Selectmen Chairman Charles Lyons said the town made a deal with the unions that allowed employees to remain "economically whole." Those on active duty would receive their pay and benefits and would continue to accumulate time toward their retirement. In return, they would turn over their military pay back to the town.

"I am gravely disappointed and disheartened and it is inconsistent with the heroic efforts the nation

■ SEE LARDER, PAGE 12

Armenian teens, educators learn about peace, democracy

BY LINDA PINKOW
STAFF WRITER

Last Wednesday evening, a group of 12 teenagers and three educators from Armenia began a three-week adventure in Arlington and Belmont.

They are this year's participants in the Secondary School Partnership to Promote Civil Society, sponsored by the Cambridge-Yerevan Sister City Association.

"I have never been in airplane [before]," said Kristine Kamalyan, 15. "I enjoy my trip very much because my old friends ride with me."

The Rev. Joanne Hartunian of Belmont, project director, explained that she had wanted the group to split up and fly on two separate planes, in fear for air safety. But the teens had insisted they wanted to fly together.

"We were so tired" after the trip, which took more than 11 hours, said Zara Tepelikyan.

But Logan Airport woke them up.

"It's very different" from Armenia, said Kamalyan.

"Everything is new," said Narek Gyurjinyan, "and

very clean."

"They are always smiling in America," Tepelikyan added.

After leaving the airport, they met their local families at the Belmont United Methodist Church, the official host site of the exchange.

"It was very good to be with our new friends," said Kamalyan.

Later in the week, sitting with her host, Christina Bradley, Kamalyan recalled, "I saw Christina and I thought she is a very good girl."

Christina's mother, Jackie, said, "We couldn't have asked for a better bunch. They're so sweet and polite, and so generous."

The visitors brought gifts from home for their new friends. Jackie Bradley was impressed by a hand-embroidered cloth created and given to her by Kamalyan. She also understood when Kamalyan's mother called the first night, at 1 a.m., to make sure her youngest child was all right.

"She said, 'I'm Kristine's mother,' and I understood, from one mother to another," Jackie Bradley said.

■ SEE ARMENIA, PAGE 12



PHOTO BY LINDA PINKOW

With Rev. Joanne Hartunian behind them, a group of teens from Belmont, Arlington and Yerevan, Armenia, discuss what makes a good leader, in a workshop at Belmont High School last Friday.

INSIDE

Educating through entertainment

Linwood Street resident Maya Apfelbaum performed her word and dance performance "Elephants and the Seven Sacred Directions," in front of First Night revelers New Year's Eve in Boston.

Page 5

INDEX

Cable listing	16
Comment	8
Learning	6
Obituaries	18
Seniors	17
Sports	13
Worship directory	16

FOR THE RECORD

POLICE LOG

The following are excerpts from the Arlington Police Department log. The log is available to the public.

Monday, Dec. 24

• At 10:14 a.m., a Massachusetts Avenue business reported that a man became angry when an employee couldn't find his cake. The man began yelling obscenities and punched a container of milk, which struck an employee. He left before police arrived.

• At 10:56 a.m., a Paul Revere Road resident told police that a cat bit her. The woman said the orange and white feline is usually friendly. Police notified the owner, who said the cat's shots were updated.

Wednesday, Dec. 26

• At 2:44 a.m., police took an intoxicated woman into protective custody. The woman was staying at a Massachusetts Avenue residence. She became agitated when the resident told her she could not smoke. He asked her to leave, but she declined.

• At 11:55 a.m., a Thesda Street resident reported that a relative vandalized his motorcycle.

• At 1:30 p.m., police received a call concerning a stolen wallet

from a Massachusetts Avenue church.

• At 6:40 p.m., a person house-sitting at a Rublee Street dwelling reported that someone had vandalized an elaborate Christmas display. The vandal allegedly knocked over deer and rearranged and stole lights.

• At 8:58 p.m., a Menotomy Road resident reported that someone had broken a minivan window.

Thursday, Dec. 27

• At 6:43 a.m., a Massachusetts Avenue business reported that someone broke a store window.

• At 9:15 a.m., a resident told police that someone had fraudulently used a credit card for \$2,400 worth of purchases in California.

• At 9:34 a.m., the Police Department received a call from Jason Street regarding a broken car window.

• At 11:50 a.m., a Massachusetts Avenue resident reported that her credit card was used for more than \$3,000 worth of purchases.

• At 6:46 p.m., police received a call concerning a stolen wallet from a Massachusetts Avenue

business.

• At 10:09 p.m., a Bates Road resident told police that someone had entered through an open door and stole a \$2,000 Omega watch, liquor, and change.

Friday, Dec. 28

• At 2:59 p.m., police recovered a reportedly stolen vehicle on Massachusetts Avenue. A Somerville rental car company had reported that the car was not returned by the Dec. 20 due date.

• At 6:18 p.m., a person from a Mill Street office reported that five bad \$20 checks were passed.

Saturday, Dec. 29

• At 6:03 a.m., a Harris Circle resident reported that someone stole his truck.

• At 9:25 a.m., a Mystic Street resident told police that a vandal smashed a vehicle's rear window.

• At 2:17 p.m., the Police Department received the first of two calls from a Massachusetts Avenue business, reporting larceny by check. The business told police that bad checks for \$1,950 and \$1,442 were passed.

• At 4:01 p.m., a Harris Circle resident reported that a motor

Arrests

Saturday, Dec. 29

• At 3:14 p.m., police arrested Matthew B. Bender, 36, 90 Marshall St., Revere, and charged him on a warrant for motor vehicle violations. Sgt. David McNamee made the arrest.

Monday, Dec. 31

• At 2:35 a.m., police arrested Kimara S. Murray, 31, 44 Montague St., and charged him with assault and battery. Officer Jennifer McGurl made the arrest.

vehicle was stolen. Police found the car a short time later with a flat tire on Broadway.

Sunday, Dec. 30

• At 9:28 a.m., police received the first of four calls regarding slashed tires on River Street.

Monday, Dec. 31

• At 1:14 p.m., a Pond Terrace resident reported that someone used her credit card to buy items totaling nearly \$4,400.

FIRE LOG

The Arlington Fire Department responded to 93 calls from Dec. 24-30, including 46 with Rescue, eight fire alarms, and 22 investigations. References to paramedics denote two-medical teams from Armstrong Ambulance Service, a private Arlington-based ambulance company. The following are excerpts from the Fire Department log; the information is available to the public.

Tuesday, Dec. 25

• At 2:52 a.m., a 63-year-old Ottawa Road resident reported chest pain. Firefighters checked the man's vital signs and administered oxygen. Rescue with paramedics transported him to Lahey Clinic.

• At 9:03 a.m., the Fire Department received a call regarding a 77-year-old Hillside Avenue woman with labored breathing. Firefighters checked her vital signs and administered oxygen. Rescue with paramedics transported her to Mt. Auburn Hospital.

Thursday, Dec. 27

• At 1:50 p.m., an 81-year-old

Summer Street resident complained of having trouble breathing. Firefighters checked the woman's oxygen saturation rate, administered oxygen, and checked her vital signs. Rescue with paramedics transported her to Mt. Auburn Hospital.

Friday, Dec. 28

• At 2:16 p.m., firefighters responded to Summer Street, where a 32-year-old man amputated the tip of at least one finger with a saw. They placed the only tip that was found and placed it in a plastic bag. Firefighters also used multi-trauma dressing to control bleeding. They checked the man's vital signs and administered oxygen. Rescue transported him to Lahey Clinic.

Saturday, Dec. 29

• At 7:40 p.m., the Fire Department responded to a call concerning an 8-year-old Oldham Road resident who fell and cut her forehead on a coffee table. Firefighters controlled the bleeding and placed an ice pack on her head. Rescue transported the girl to Lahey Clinic.

MEETINGS

Thursday, Jan. 3

• Capital Planning Committee meets at 4 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, first-floor conference room.

• Arlington Family Connection meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Robbins Library, fourth-floor conference room. Agenda items scheduled: parent seminar series, winter family party, and setting up intergenerational playgroups.

• Conservation Commission meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, second-floor conference room.

• School Committee's Policies and Procedures Subcommittee meets at 7:30 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Arlington High School, sixth floor.

• Zoning Bylaw Review Committee meets at 8 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, first-floor conference room.

Monday, Jan. 7

• School Committee's Goals Subcommittee meets at 7 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Arlington High School, sixth floor.

• Board of Selectmen meets at 7:15 p.m. in the Board of Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall, second floor.

• Vision 2020 Diversity Task Group meets at

7:30 p.m. in the Jefferson Cutter House, lower level.

Tuesday, Jan. 8

• School Committee's Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee meets at 6:30 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Arlington High School, sixth floor.

• Noise Abatement Study Committee meets at 7 p.m. in the Community Safety Building, second floor.

• Transportation Advisory Committee meets at 7:15 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, second-floor conference room.

• School Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Arlington High School, sixth floor.

• Parks and Recreation Commission meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Whittemore-Robbins House.

• Zoning Board of Appeals meets at 7:45 p.m. in Town Hall, second floor.

Wednesday, Jan. 9

• School Committee's Goals Subcommittee meets at 7 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Arlington High School, sixth floor.

• Friends of Robbins Farm Park meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Jefferson Cutter House.

Homebuyer workshops begin Jan. 9

The North Suburban Consortium's First Time Homebuyer Workshop, which includes Arlington residents, has access for certification to the Massachusetts Housing Partnership; Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency; and North Suburban HOME Consortium.

This program begins Wednesday, Jan. 9 and runs for four consecutive Wednesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. in Malden. There is a \$50 registration fee (\$45 if registered before Dec. 30). Last day of registration is Jan. 8, 2002.

For more information call 781-324-5720.

Mugar Advisory Committee has openings

The town of Arlington is seeking interested parties for a position as a member of the Mugar Advisory Committee. Please sub-

mit resume to the Board of Selectmen's Office, town of Arlington, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, 02476.

Symmes info meeting Wednesday

The town is holding an informational session concerning the recent Symmes Hospital purchase at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9 in Town Hall.

The town recently announced that it intends to purchase the 18.1-acre former Symmes Hospital site for \$7.1 million. The purchase and sale agreement between the town and the Lahey/Advantage Partnership, composed of the Lahey Corporation and HealthSouth was announced and signed at a press conference at the Symmes campus last month.

Packets of information have been sent to Town Meeting members and they will be able to ask questions about the plan in preparation for the Jan. 14 special Town Meeting.



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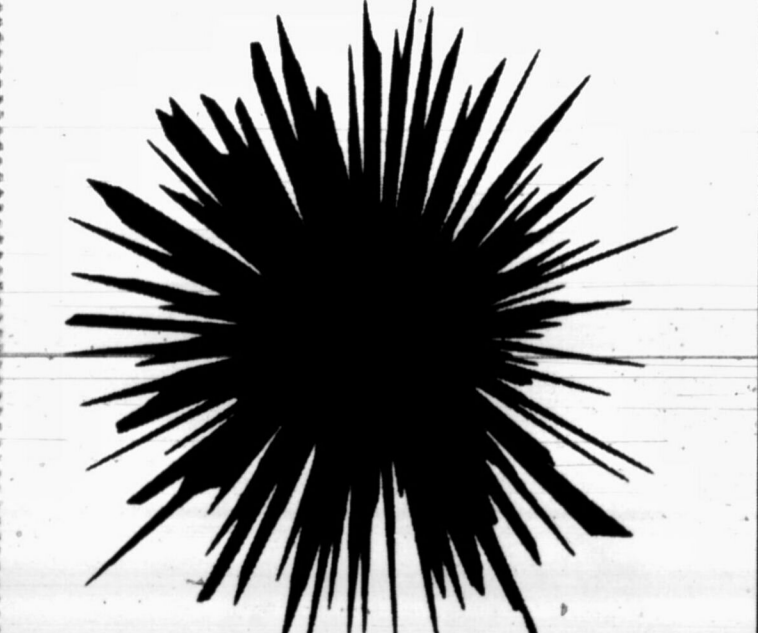
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Eagle Scout's hard work honors Marquis

BY CARLA DEFORD
SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

If you've ever traveled west from Cambridge on the Minuteman Trail and been uncertain about when you've entered Arlington, you have Eagle Scout Alec McInnes to thank for clearing up the confusion.

As part of his Eagle project, Alec, a member of Troop 368, commissioned and had placed on the bikeway at the Arlington town line two carved wooden signs (one mounted above the other), saying "Arlington" and "Donald R. Marquis Trailway."

Sometime last February, Alec and his father, Robert McInnes, an assistant scoutmaster of Troop 368, read in this paper that the Board of Selectmen had named the bikeway in honor of Marquis, who served as town manager for 34 years.

As a result, according to Alec, he and his dad got the idea of creating a sign that would "give permanent recognition to Mr. Marquis." The father and son were also aware that signs existed at the town line on all other major roads leading into Arlington and, in Alec's words, they wanted to "complete the set" by putting one at the eastern entrance of the bikeway. Before they got the idea for the signs, however, Alec conceived another part of his Eagle project: a bikeway cleanup.

Looking for guidance, Alec first

approached the Open Space Committee, which referred him to the Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee and its chairman, Jack W. Johnson. That committee informed him that the area between Alewife and Lake Street needed cleaning up and gave him guidelines to follow. For example, he was told that if he cleared shrubs, he also needed to remove any overhanging branches up to a height of 10 feet.

On April 9, Alec went to the Board of Selectmen for formal approval of the cleanup and permission to raise funds for the signs. Selectman Charles Lyons was particularly enthusiastic about Alec's project. He asked Town Manager Phil Farrington to help the Eagle scout in any way he could and the board readily gave its approval. The Department of Public Works and Department of Planning and Community Development both offered assistance and Alec began his clean up three weeks later.

For five hours on April 28 and six hours on April 29, Alec and 13 volunteers, some of them fellow troop members, worked on the bikeway, for a total of 84 man-hours of labor.

With the help of the tools, dump truck, and driver made available by DPW Operations Engineer Mark Shea, Alec and his team were able to remove 10 truckloads of debris (the load of each one being equal to that of two pickup trucks).

Once the cleanup was finished, Alec turned his attention to commissioning the signs he had envisioned. First, he sent letters to local businesses soliciting donations and got replies from three sponsors: the Irish American Club; Lyons Fuel; and Simpson, Gumpertz & Heger, Inc.

He and his father also drove around town, taking photos of wooden signs. They were especially impressed with the one at St. Agnes School and soon found out that it had been created and donated by Arlington resident Jim Garbally. Alec contacted Garbally and asked if he would be willing to make the signs for the bikeway. Garbally agreed, hinting that he would reduce the cost because it was a community-service project.

Garbally teaches lettering and graphics at the Butera School of Art in Boston and also has a full-time sign-making business that he runs out of his home. He has donated three signs to St. Agnes (for the school, the church, and the parish center) and gave the one for the school in memory of his mother, Marie.

Garbally, who has three children of his own, was immediately taken with Alec's project.

"He was doing the right thing and I appreciated it. [Becoming an Eagle scout] is a serious achievement," said Garbally.

Alec then asked Garbally to go with him to a meeting with Alan



At the recent dedication of the signs commissioned by Alec McInnes, standing in Scout uniform, include sign maker Jim Garbally, far left, Selectman Kathleen Kiely-Dias, Director of Planning and Community Development Alan McClennen, Selectman Kevin Greeley, Selectmen Chairman Charles Lyons, former Town Manager Donald R. Marquis, Selectman Jack Hurd, and State Rep. Anne Paulsen. In front of the signs are Troop 368 scouts. (left to right), Will Hughes, Evan Warrington, David Marquis, Mark Berlinghieri, and Karsten Koenig.

McClennen, director of planning and community development. When Alec described his plan, McClennen offered to have the town pay for the sign indicating the Arlington town line and Garbally offered to make the second sign for whatever money Alec had raised, essentially donating most of its value.

On Oct. 21, the two signs were dedicated at a ceremony attended

by a number of Arlington VIPs, as well as several younger scouts from Troop 368 and other well-wishers.

In his speech at that ceremony, Alec said he hopes the signs will serve as "a welcome to all those entering Arlington from Cambridge" and indicate to bikeway users that "Arlington is a community proud of its past and thankful to those who, like Donald R. Marquis, have made a difference."

Town officials praise McInnes for his commitment

BY CARLA DEFORD
SPECIAL TO THE ADVOCATE

"I can't think of anything the town could have done that would have meant more to me," said Donald R. Marquis of the Board of Selectmen's decision to name the bikeway after him.

As Marquis tells it, he and Alan McClennen, director of planning and community development, worked for 18 years to make the bikeway a reality: from 1974, shortly after McClennen came to town government, until the ribbon-cutting ceremony in 1992.

Marquis noted that for those 18 years, he and McClennen "were two people unwilling to give up." Of himself, Marquis said, "I'm

known for not taking 'no' for an answer."

The former town manager found a parallel to this persistence in Alec McInnes' commitment to his Eagle project.

"I'm pleased that Alec was willing to spend the time doing something so important for the town," said Marquis.

Marquis remembered the days before the trail when the abandoned railroad tracks divided the town, creating an eyesore and a hazard. Today, he said, the bikeway "unites the community and connects 70 percent of its parks and playgrounds."

It will be further improved in the future because of a deal with Metromedia that allowed the

company to lay cable along the old railroad bed in exchange for a quarter of a million dollars that will be used for trail maintenance.

"The Minuteman is one of the most popular bikeways in the United States," Marquis noted. "And it ranks very high on my list of things I've been a part of in Arlington."

McClennen concurs with Marquis about the importance of the bikeway.

According to McClennen, "the creation of the Minuteman Bikeway changed the character of the town perhaps more than any other public project. It converted 30 acres of railroad bed to 30 acres of open space and provided the residents of Arlington with a way to

get to the Great Meadows, an open space owned by Arlington and located in Lexington."

In explaining why he funded the sign at the Arlington town line that was part of McInnes' Eagle project, he said, "The Minuteman Bikeway is the most outstanding linear park in New England and Arlington happens to be at the entrance to that park. I felt that it was important for people to understand that when they enter Arlington."

McClennen, a former Boy Scout himself, also wanted to help McInnes complete the requirements for Eagle rank.

"I have a great deal of respect for young people who are willing to take on a community-wide pro-

ject and I will give whatever support I can," said McClennen.

State Rep. Anne Paulsen, who attended the dedication ceremony for the signs that McInnes commissioned, added her praise.

"Boy Scouts have to have a lot of perseverance in working toward an Eagle scout award," she said. "This young man provided a very fine service to the town of Arlington."

As McClennen put it, "McInnes' project insures that people on the bikeway will be greeted by handsome signs when they arrive in Arlington from both the east and the west. This project is symbolic of the kind of public participation that helps make this town a great place to live."

Performance benefits family

Magpie Puppets will present "Leopard Learns a Lesson" at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13 in the Calvary Church Hall, located at 300 Massachusetts Ave.

All proceeds will benefit the family of Tony Cuffe, who succumbed to cancer on Dec. 18. Cuffe, a Glasgow native, was a founding member of the Scottish group Ossian. A multi-talented performer, he played guitar, harp and whistle in addition to being a fine traditional singer. He is survived by his wife and their three children, who live in the Boston area.

Based on a folktale from Malawi, Africa, "Leopard Learns a Lesson" tells the story of a mother leopard and her son, who have been bullying smaller animals. The leopards learn, along with the audience, that cooperation works better than intimidation. In addition to the leopards, the cast includes an intellectual elephant, a riddle-telling rhinoceros, two resourceful rabbits and a clever bee. The show features original music composed by Alison Reid.

The suggested donation is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children. For more information contact Maggie Whalen 781-643-4741, magpie1976@juno.com, www.magpiepuppets.com.

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MLK holiday events highlight METCO

The METCO program is the focus of the Arlington Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday in Arlington this year with two events planned to celebrate the 35th year of our community's participation in this program.

- The annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance is planned for Monday, Jan. 21 at 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Arlington.

The 14th annual King Birthday Observance features speaker Jean McGuire, executive director of the METCO program. The evening begins with its traditional potluck supper in the First Baptist Church hall. Those planning to attend the supper are asked to bring a main dish or dessert sufficient to serve six adults. At 7:30 p.m., the program begins in the church sanctuary and those who cannot attend the supper are welcome to come for the program.

McGuire has been the executive director of the Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity, Inc. (METCO) since 1973. METCO is a voluntary program that brings African-American and Hispanic children from inner-city Boston to attend schools in predominantly-white suburbs.

The program aims to provide these children with an excellent education in grades kindergarten to 12, while providing a means for children of different backgrounds to learn more about one another.

In addition to her work for METCO, McGuire is a former member of the Boston School Committee and an instructor at Simmons College and the Harvard University Summer Program. She has won numerous awards for her work promoting the METCO program and she serves on a number of advisory boards, including the Boston Children's Museum and the College of Community and Public Service at the University of Massachusetts.

Music will be provided by the Shiloh Baptist Church Youth Choir of Medford and presentation of an award to a community member who has worked to embody the ideals of Dr. King. A free-will offering will be taken,

Cultural Council grants given to local groups

A total of \$46,910 in state funds has been granted to not-for-profit organizations in Arlington by the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC).

Two organizations received Organizational Support Grants, which fund organizations with track records of excellence in cultural programming and public service from across the commonwealth. The money is unrestricted and meant for general operating support.

- The Philharmonic Society of Arlington, Inc. received \$2,010 to offer learning and performing opportunities to amateur instrumentalists and vocalists, and to support the musical life of the community through concerts, a competition for young artists, and commissioned compositions.

- Voice of the Turtle received \$8,760 to promote the appreciation of Judeo-Spanish music through recordings, concerts and educational activities, and to promote the value of preserving and

with proceeds to be divided among the King Center for Non-Violent Studies in Atlanta and the Arlington Public Schools for its social-studies program and the Arlington African American Society's scholarship program.

The First Baptist Church is located at 819 Massachusetts Ave., and all are welcome.

- In addition, a special family program for all community members is planned at the Hardy School on Friday, Jan. 18 from 6 to 8:15 p.m.

The program begins with a pasta dinner provided by Arlington Schools Food Services. Arlington families attending are asked to bring a dessert to share.

Entertainment as this event will be provided by Janice Allen, an award-winning musician and story teller who presents African-American folk tales and gospel music in a highly-participatory program designed to show all children the important role African-American culture played in shaping the United States.

The family program is designed for elementary school age children, their parents and METCO alumni. METCO students can make plans through their schools to remain in Arlington on Friday afternoon and meet their parents at the Hardy School.

Because of the expected popularity of this event, free tickets will be required. Tickets can be obtained through the METCO coordinators at the Bishop, Hardy, Peirce, and Thompson Schools or at the Robbins Library Children's Department or the Fox Branch Library in East Arlington.

For additional information about the family program, please call the Robbins Library at 781-316-3234.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance Committee, an interfaith community organization, is the sponsor of the annual program. The family program is co-sponsored by the King Birthday Observance Committee, the Arlington METCO program, and the Robbins Library Russell Fund.

protecting the cultural traditions of all communities.

- The Arlington Center for the Arts received \$12,230 to increase awareness and participation in the arts, provide support for artists in all media, offer diverse arts education for all backgrounds and insure access for diverse populations.

- The Underground Railway Theater received \$23,910 to create, present, and tour new works that explore a changing landscape of artistic forms and social concerns and to combine actors, puppets, and music to offer a diverse repertoire to a diverse audience.

The Massachusetts Cultural Council is a state agency that provides grants to organizations, communities, schools and artists through a variety of annual funding programs. To learn more about programs and services offered by the MCC, call 1-800-232-0960 or log on to the MCC Web site, www.massculturalcouncil.org.

DEEP IN THOUGHT



Rachael Fulreader, 5, listens to a seasonal story read by Children's Services Librarian Marianne Uttam during Snowmen Stories and Crafts at the Robbins Library last Friday.

Marzilli, Hamel honored by Environmental League

At its 103rd annual meeting, the Environmental League of Massachusetts (ELM) recently presented its annual awards for excellence in environmental protection.

The Environmental League named Arlington residents James Marzilli (D-Arlington) as its Legislator of the Year and Sonia Hamel as its Public Servant of the Year.

"Every year, we choose environmental leaders from the Legislature, government agencies and a citizen activist to highlight the great work they do to protect the environment and make Massachusetts a better place to live and work," said Jim Gomes, president of the Environmental League of Massachusetts, also an Arlington resident. "We are delighted to honor these exceptional people this year."

Marzilli was presented with his award for his creative leadership in developing new policies to conserve energy and halt global warming as well as his "personal commitment to the beauty and richness of nature." Marzilli is the sponsor of several "environmental tax shifting" bills, including a bill to increase the sales tax on gas guzzling vehicles and reducing the tax on energy efficient ones. "Representative Marzilli has long been a friend of the environmental community," said Pam DiBona, vice-president for policy of the Environmental



Left to right: Jim Gomes, president of the Environmental League of Massachusetts; Attorney General Thomas Reilly; Sonia Hamel, director of air policy for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; and Rep. James Marzilli (D-Arlington).

League. "For years, he has taken a leadership role to protect our resources and had the foresight to look not just at today or tomorrow, but many years ahead at how our actions will change the face of Massachusetts tomorrow."

"I have enjoyed working with the Environmental League in the area of energy conservation,

which improves the environment and saves consumers money," said Marzilli. "At the local level, I am proud of Arlington's work to reduce global climate change."

Sonia Hamel, also of Arlington, received an award as Public Servant of the Year for her leadership on behalf of clean air, a stable climate and the health

and safety of all Massachusetts citizens. Hamel, director of air policy at the state Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, spearheaded the effort that led to Massachusetts' tough new legislation on power plant emissions. She also leads the state's effort to reduce the Commonwealth's emissions of greenhouse gasses.

Cable show features Afghanistan

August of this past year, Saleh Keshawarz Ph.D P.E., chairman and associate professor of the civil and environmental engineering department of the University of Hartford, revisited his former engineering school in Herat, Afghanistan.

His mission was to advise the faculty on the curriculum for the school. Recently, as part of a team of experts, he briefed the U.S. Agency for International Development to determine the plan for reconstruction. The goal, he emphasized, is to tap the expertise of those professionals who stayed back in Afghanistan throughout the last decades.

Mary Lou Bigelow interviewed

Keshawarz about his formative years growing up in Afghanistan and his hopes and dreams for the future of his country. The show will air on Arlington Cable TV Channel 8 on Monday and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30 a.m., and Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.

Volunteer crewmembers for this ACTV 8 series include guest Director Adam Brooks, camera operators Dick LaPlante, Michele Meagher, and Daniel Parsignault. Audio was handled by Dan O'Connell and graphics by Maureen Jackson. Scott Flowers designed the flower arrangements.

Democrats meeting Jan. 17

The Arlington Democratic Town Committee will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 17 in the Selectmen's Hearing Room, Town Hall, second floor. The building is handicapped accessible.

Our state legislators, Sen. Robert Havern, Reps. Jay Kaufman, Jim Marzilli and Anne Paulsen have been invited to speak. The agenda will also include discussion of the upcoming caucus planned for Feb. 2.

The ADTC welcomes all Arlington Democrats and takes a strong stand against discrimination on the basis of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity or economic status.

For further information, please call Janice Bakey, 781-643-4345.

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Trying to stamp out elephant abuse

Performer spreads word at First Night

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

Moving from graceful arm movements to powerful stomps of her feet, Maya Apfelbaum attempts to give listeners and observers a rich experience and hopefully, a little bit of education.

Apfelbaum, a Linwood Street resident, performed her word and dance performance "Elephants and the Seven Sacred Directions," in front of First Night revelers New Year's Eve in Boston.

"It's something I'd like to do either at (Calvary Church), where they've been so gracious in letting me practice, or at the Town Hall, where they have that great jungle backdrop," Apfelbaum said.

As a child, Apfelbaum spent time in Mysore, located in the southern India near the provincial capital of Bangalore. Her father had traveled there as an employee for the United States Agency for International Development, teaching engineering techniques to people in India.

Apfelbaum was born in Springfield, but as you'd expect her family was a wandering one as her father changed assignments across the globe.

Here is where a series of curious coincidences begin. Mysore is where the film "Elephant Boy" was filmed, a 1937 documentary directed by Robert Flaherty about a boy who discovers a fabled elephant burial ground. Flaherty helped to introduce the world to expository filmmaking, including the famous 1921 film "Nanook of the North."

The Apfelbaums met Flaherty's daughter, Monica, while in Mysore, who took them around the Indian city and gave Maya her first exposure to elephants.

And later, the family found out they shared some close real estate with both Flaherty and Rudyard Kipling, the author of the "Jungle Book."



Maya Apfelbaum performs her word and dance performance at Spy Pond.

"These are just pieces of this story," she said.

After graduating college, she also worked for five years at the Franklin Park Zoo and a year at the Philadelphia Zoo. In that time, she said, "I learned just how complex the emotional lives of so many animals are."

Apfelbaum sits in her kitchen, a pair of elephant earrings on her lobes. She said her performance isn't trying to preach, but just attempts to raise consciousness about the poaching and taming of elephants. Though illegal, hunters still prize the ivory tusks grown by male and female African elephants.

In Mysore, she saw elephants herded, domesticated and tamed, a process that emitted guttural shrieks from separated mothers and babies and captured the imagination and ire of Apfelbaum.

Most elephants tamed for circus shows and other performances are Asian as well.

"I'm trying to tell a story, not offer a didactic lesson in elephants," she said.

The "Seven Sacred Directions" are composed of the four natural

elements (fire, air, earth and water) along with three other elements: sub-earth, sky, and heart, she said.

Apfelbaum said elephants are known to be able to "tap" for water and detect vibrations in the earth that indicate where water might be located.

That tapping motion and other idiosyncratic movements of elephants Apfelbaum studied at the The Elephant Sanctuary in Hohenwald, Tenn., which is the nation's only natural-habitat refuge developed to meet the needs of endangered Asian elephants. It is a non-profit organization, licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, designed specifically for old, sick, or needy elephants who have been retired from zoos and circuses.

Apfelbaum spent 32 days there, studying movements and family patterns.

"It was hard. Sometimes I just couldn't figure them out," she said, cracking a smile.

The dedication toward perfecting her dance landed Apfelbaum a

chance to perform at a San Francisco conference this year called "Kinship With All Life" that featured Dr. Jane Goodall, famous for her work with chimpanzees in Africa.

The dance itself draws influence from Indian classical dance through the sweeping and slow motions of hand and limb that are stilled in that country's artwork. But the rhythmic movements of the dance also find inspiration from African dance. These are, of course, the two places on the planet where elephants reside.

Musically, she is accompanied by longtime friend Paul Sedgwick on the didgeridoo, an Aboriginal instrument usually composed of a hollowed-out gourd and often as long as an elephant's tusk.

The performance ends with what Apfelbaum calls "a death scene" and an eventual resurrection.

"Because I'm an intellectual person as well, I'm not trying to portray this as all black and white," Apfelbaum said. "But my hope is that I give a people a different sense of perspective."

Bilafer seeking 11th term as treasurer

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

School rebuild projects. Town Hall renovations. If Town Meeting approves it, the Symmes site. As Arlington's Treasurer, John Bilafer is the man who puts the money in people's hands, floating bonds out on the market to fund the public infrastructure.

Formerly a selectman in the 1960s, Bilafer will be running for his 11th term as town treasurer this spring, after more than three decades of public service.

"I've been going at this for quite a while," he said.

In municipal government, being a treasurer is something like being the boiler in a building in the Northeast during the winter. There are other, more visible parts to the building that look good, like those thermaproofed windows, triple insulation and other means of keeping everybody warm. But you still need heat. If your boiler's broken, you're still going to eventually start seeing your breath in front of you.

Likewise, even with debt exclusions, careful financial planning and other measures, unless you can float bonds on the open market at a good price, you're going to spend more money to borrow money. Eventually, it will catch up with you. That's what a treasurer tries to prevent.

One of Bilafer's biggest goals, he said, is to see the financing of the school renovation project through to its completion. He thinks he offers the best credibility for Arlington when investors determine the town's bond rating.

"It is most important because these bonds are under the debt exclusion and they affect the voter directly."

"One local city that is flirting with that status probably is Lawrence. Therefore, it costs them a hell of a lot more to finance the same capital projects."

Bilafer said investment company Moody's classifies Arlington's bond rating as Aa2. There are only two grades possible that are higher.

Bond ratings can go as low as C, which are of "junk" status. In all, there are seven main classifications and Arlington is in the second highest group.

In rare cases when cities go bankrupt, "I guess it's a funny thing," Bilafer said. "If you run such a terrible city, then the state helps you with all kinds of money to get back on your feet. But who wants to do it that way? Who wants to succeed after falling to the bottom?"

School project

"According to what we've been told, estimates to finish the four schools might run up to \$10 million over budget, which leaves one school out," he said. "I'm really interested in knowing how is it going to be financed; through another debt exclusion, are we going to absorb it through traditional borrowing, or what? We tried

to put the costs up all at once. Perhaps in retrospect that might have not been the best way to do it, but if we waited it would have pitted region against region."

It's this reason, he said, that he is reticent about wanting to bond more money to build a field house in Arlington.

"Before we address the needs of a field house, the education of the kids would rank first with me and their physical well-being would rank second, which means doing the field house later."

He doesn't deny the project is necessary, but thinks that the system set its priorities already by wanting to rebuild the schools.

And the renovation of Arlington's fire stations, the other major project on the block that will require bonding, "have to be done." Very soon, Town Manager Phil Farrington will have in his hands a consultant's recommendation telling him if Arlington needs three fire stations or only two.

Bilafer also strives to keep the town's scholarship fund growing, a project he has seen grow from a few thousand dollars in the 1980s to a fund with more than a million dollars in funds this year. Over half the Arlington students who applied for a scholarship in 2001 got one, but "I want to reach a point where every child that wants a scholarship gets one."

The town's trust funds, while taking a hit "like everybody else" last year, have accrued \$10-11 million.

Long term, Bilafer wants to fully fund the town's pension system outside of the budget by 2008. The two ton monster, health care costs, is the next "budget-buster" that requires a fund, "and we've at least committed the town to starting a health care fund for retirees. There is already a strain on the budget due to health care costs as retirees live longer," he said.

Inevitably, Bilafer decides if there is enough oil in the tank to keep the boiler running by asking himself three questions.

"Of course the first one is more important as you get older. Am I physically able to do the job? I had a little back trouble last year, but I just had a physical and I think it turned out fine. Am I enthusiastic? I am still enthusiastic, believe it or not, although the actuary keeps telling me I'm working for 10 cents on the dollar on terms of his retirement benefits, but that doesn't enter into my decision making at all. The third question is what goals do I want to accomplish. Do I have goals to accomplish? I definitely have goals to accomplish," said Bilafer, who also chaired the Millennium Celebration events in 2000 and 2001.



John Bilafer

Building inspector: No problems at hotel site

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

After a request for comment from *The Advocate*, Building Inspector Michael Byrne said the Burkhard Corporation would put back a section of fence that had left its Arlington Suites hotel construction site exposed.

"Burkhard told us that the fence had just blown over," Byrne said.

A Medford resident had telephoned *The Advocate* that several items he viewed at the Massachusetts Avenue hotel site might compromise safety.

Two other concerns, Byrne said, were unwarranted. Wiring that was sitting in water was insulated for that purpose, he said, and a ladder that looked to be leaning against a building was in fact fastened to it.

Byrne said he has received "other calls from neighbors and each time Burkhard has been responsive," he said.

Concerns about neighborhood safety led residents in that section of East Arlington to file a Public Information Process request with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. A PIP ensures that the public has access to information concerning the cleanup of the site.

The site is registered with the DEP and was contaminated with oil and other hazardous material from the former Arrow Pontiac dealership, which was above grade from where the hotel is being built.

"I have talked with Carolyn Ricker (a Henderson Street resident, who sponsored the PIP) and neither she nor I have heard anything from the DEP," said East Arlington activist Elsie Fiore. The community has also requested a meeting with MacPhail Associates, the environmental company Burkhard hired to clean up the site, but so far both sides have not agreed to a date.

Neighbors on Henderson

Street were concerned during the summer when dust accumulated on their cars and homes, unsure if the dust was in any way tainted.

Karen Stromberg, public involvement coordinator for DEP, said the hotel site is not eligible for a PIP because it has a special classification known as a down-gradient property status. In this classification, Burkhard claimed that pollution from a higher point had seeped down into the ground beneath their site.

But she said she has attempted to broker a meeting between MacPhail Associates and the neighborhood, which had been unsuccessful thus far.

The Conservation Commission has previously scrutinized the site because of the lack of updates from Burkhard concerning the cleanup. However, Conservation Commission Administrator Cori Beckwith said she has received memos from Burkhard in recent months on a regular basis.

Eatery holding grand opening on Saturday

The Full Moon Restaurant is holding its grand opening from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5.

The new Thai eatery, which is at 663 Massachusetts Ave., across from the Robbins Library, is owned by Paul and Yuphin Dexter, who live in Everett.

Yuphin, who is from Thailand, is also the chef and has worked in Boston restaurants. She also has won the Best of Boston award for

her cuisine.

"We want people to come in and try our cuisine," said Paul Dexter of the grand opening.

This is the couple's first venture in owning a restaurant and Paul Dexter said they are excited about coming to Arlington.

"It's a real nice area. There is plenty of parking. It's a great location," said Paul Dexter.

— By Les G. Masterson

Warrant open until Jan. 14

At its meeting on Dec. 17, the Board of Selectmen opened the warrant for the annual Town Meeting. The warrant will remain open until the board's meeting on Monday, Jan. 14.

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LEARNING

SCHOOL NOTES

Community ed classes

Winter classes at Arlington Community Education are scheduled to start Tuesday, Jan. 22. They continue to April 4. If you are an Arlington resident and have not received a brochure, request one at 781-316-3568 or pick up a copy at the Robbins and Fox libraries.

Classes are held once a week (Jan. 22 - April 4).

ABCs of Understanding Money & Investments, Tues., 3/5 and 3/12, 7-9 p.m., \$30 (\$35/couple)

Arlington Local History, Thurs., 1/24 - 3/21, 8 sessions, 7:30-9:30, \$80

Baby Sitting Training, Tues. & Thurs., 3/05, 3/07, 3/12, 3/14, 6:30-9:30, \$85

Ballroom Dancing 2, Thurs., 1/24 - 4/04 7-8:30 p.m., \$145/couple

Ballroom Dancing, Thurs., 1/24 - 4/04, 8:30-10 p.m., \$145/couple

Basic Bicycle Maintenance, one, 2/12 or 3/12, 7-9 p.m., \$25

Charitable Giving, Your Money, Your Family, ..., Thurs., 1/24 & 1/31, 7-9 p.m., \$36

Community CPR, Tues. & Thurs., 2/05 & 2/07, 6:30-10 p.m., \$75

Commonwealth Dog Advanced Training, Tues., 1/22 - 3/12, 8-9 p.m., \$128

Commonwealth Dog Basic Training, Tues., 1/22 - 3/12, 7-8 p.m., \$128

Colonial Life: 1775, Tues., 1/29 - 2/12, 7-9 p.m., \$39

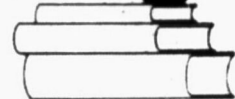
Infant and Child CPR, Tues. & Thurs., 2/26 & 2/28, 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$80

Custom Drapery, Thurs., 1/24 - 4/04, 7-9 p.m., \$91

Driver Education Program,

AHS students only, M - F, 2/25-3/15, 15 sessions, 30 hrs., \$85
Driver Education Program, AHS students only, M - F, 3/25-4/19, 15 sessions, 30 hrs., \$85
Enneagram: Understanding Yourself and Others, Thurs., 2/26 7-10 p.m., \$30
Excel 1, 1/22 - 3/19 7-9 p.m., \$120

School Notes



Fears And Phobias, Tues., 3/05, 7-9 p.m., \$15
Don't Be Afraid of Your Fitness, Thurs., 1/24, 1 session, 7-9 p.m., \$15
French - Bishop School, Wed., 2:30-3:30 p.m., 1/23 - 5/01, \$143

French - Brackett School, Thurs., 2:30-3:30 p.m. 1/24 - 5/02, \$143

French - Stratton School, Wed., 2:30-3:30 p.m. 1/23 - 5/01, \$143

French - Thompson School, Wed., 2:30-3:30 p.m. 1/23 - 5/01, \$143

Financial Strategies for Retirement, Ages 45 to 69, Thurs., 1/24 - 2/14 7-9:30 p.m., \$49 - (\$59/couple)

The Freedom Trail to a Balanced Life, Thurs., 1/31 & 2/07, 2 sessions, 7-9 p.m., \$30, (\$35/couple)

Healing Through Grief, Tues., 2/26, 7-9 p.m., \$15 (\$20/couple)

Hand Drumming For Beginners, Thurs., 1/24 - 3/21 7-8:30 p.m., \$121

Healing & Preventing Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, Tues., 3/19, 7-9 p.m., \$15

How to Jumpstart Your Writing, Tues., 3/26 & 4/02, 7-9 p.m., \$45

There's No Place Like Home, Tues., 2/12 & 2/26 6:30-8:30 p.m., \$29

How To Add Volumes To Your Vocabulary, Thurs., 1/31 & 2/07, 7-9:30 p.m., \$45

Introduction to Computers, Tues., 1/22 - 4/02, 7-9 p.m., \$150
Investments & Personal Financial Planning, Tues., 1/22 - 2/12, 7-9 p.m., \$49 (\$59/couple)

Regional Italian Cooking, Thurs., 1/24 - 4/04, 10 sessions, 6:30-9:30, \$129

Japanese - Hardy School, Tues., 2:30-3:30 p.m. 1/22-4/30, \$143

Knitting - Beyond The Basic, Tues., 1/22, 2/29; 2/12, 2/26; 3/5-3/26, 7-10 p.m., \$80

Know Your Car, Thurs., 1/24 - 4/04, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., \$149

Kaplan Prep Courses, Tues. & Thurs., 2/05-4/11 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$799/\$719

Blue Hydrangeas, Tues., 1/29, 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$15

Pepperberry Hearts & More, Tues., 2/12, 6:30-9:30, p.m., \$15

Spring Wreath & Easter Basket, Tues., 3/12, 6:30-9:30, \$15

French Country Wreath, Tues., 3/19, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m., \$15

Sea Shells, Tues., 4/2, 6:30-9:30, \$15

Meditation Stress Release, Thurs., 3/7 7-9 p.m., \$25

Maximize Your Financial Aid & Lower The Cost of College, Tues., 3/12, 7-9 p.m., \$30 (\$35/couple)

Microsoft Word, Tues., 1/24 - 3/19, 7-8:30 p.m., \$120

New Rules for The New Job Search, Thurs., 2/28-3/21, 4 sess., 7-9 p.m., \$49

PageMaker, Tues., 2/26, 1 session 6:30 - 9:30 p.m., \$25

Properly Spoken English Grammar & Articulation, Tues., 2/26 & 3/05, 7-9:30, p.m., \$45

PowerPoint, Tues., 2/05, 1 session 7-9:30 p.m., \$25

PowerPoint, Tues., 3/26, 7-9:30 p.m., \$25

Real Estate For First Time Home Buyers, one, 2/26 & 3/05, 7-9:30 p.m., \$60

Sewing, Tues., 1/22 - 4/02, 7-9:30 p.m., \$91

Sharpening Your Conversation & Listen Skills, Tues., 2/12 7-9:30 p.m., \$29

American Sign Language, Tues., 1/29 - 3/16, 8 sessions, 7-9 p.m., \$89 (\$125/couple)

The 7 Skills of Effective Presentations, Thurs., 2/14 7-9:30 p.m., \$30

Spanish - Bishop, Wed., 2:30-3:30 p.m. 1/23 - 5/01, \$143

Spanish - Brackett, Thurs., 2:30-3:30 p.m. 1/24 - 5/02, \$143

Spanish - Hardy, Tues., 2:30-3:30 p.m. 1/22 - 4/30, \$143

Spanish - Stratton, Wed., 2:30-3:30 p.m. 1/23 - 5/01, \$143

Spanish - Thompson, Tues., 2:30-3:30 p.m. 1/22-4/30, \$143

Surfing the Web, Tues., 2/26-3/12, 7-9 p.m., \$75

Technology for Seniors, Tues., 3/26 & 4/02, 4:30-6:30, \$59

Telling Stories Via Video: Intro to Documentary Video, Thurs., 2/07-3/07, 4 sess., 6:15 - 8:45, \$49

Web Page Design, Tues., 3/19-4/02, 7-9 p.m., 3 wks., \$75

Traditional Hatha Yoga Class, Thurs., 1/24 - 4/04, 10 sess. 7-8:30, \$89

Spanish teacher sought
Brackett parents and the World Languages Committee are looking

Jan. 16 deadline for MCAS prep

Students in grades 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 10 are eligible for the MCAS after-school preparation program offered by Arlington Public Schools. Those interested are asked to respond by Jan. 16.

Superintendent Kathleen F. Donovan wrote in a letter to parents and guardians: "These voluntary, after-school programs are especially intended for students who may need additional help developing skill and confidence responding to MCAS questions. Each program is eight weeks long. These after-school sessions are not, in themselves, comprehensive reviews for the MCAS. These programs will offer your child new opportunities to think through MCAS-style questions and develop written responses.

"The programs are designed to end close to the administration of each section of the MCAS in the spring so that the experience will be fresh for the students when they take the test. As a result, the programs begin and end at different times, and some of the programs overlap by a few

weeks.

"Your child may participate in one program, not the beginning of one session and the end of a different session. Students are expected to attend both Wednesday and Thursday sessions during the eight-week course. Each session will be about 75 minutes long."

These programs will run only if there is sufficient student enrollment and staff available to teach them. Caretakers will be notified about your child's enrollment as soon as possible. The schedule follows:

READING

GRADE 3

Week 1, Jan. 30, 31

Week 2, Feb. 6, 7

Week 3, Feb. 13, 14

Week 4, Feb. 27, 28

Week 5, March 6, 7

Week 6, March 13, 14

Week 7, March 20, 21

Week 8, March 27, 28

Testing, April 2-4

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

GRADES 4, 7, 10

Week 1, Feb. 6, 7

Week 2, Feb. 13, 14
Week 3, Feb. 27, 28
Week 4, March 6, 7
Week 5, March 13, 14
Week 6, March 20, 21
Week 7, March 27, 28
Week 8, April 3, 4
Testing, April 9, Long Composition

HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE

GRADE 8

MATHEMATICS

GRADES 4, 6, 8, 10

Week 1, March 13, 14

Week 2, March 20, 21

Week 3, March 27, 28

Week 4, April 3, 4

Week 5, April 10, 11

Week 6, April 24, 25

Week 7, May 1, 2

Week 8, May 8, 9

Testing, May 13-24

Forms to apply are available

from the Office of the Superintendent (781-316-3500). Return

completed forms to the Office of Joanne M. Gurry, assistant

superintendent for curriculum, Box 167, Arlington 02476 by

Wednesday, Jan. 16.

Teachers gain donated science gear

Science teachers at Arlington Public Schools have taken advantage of thousands of dollars in donated equipment.

In a memo to Superintendent Kay Donovan, Thomas Vaughn, science lead teacher for grades 6-12, spelled out the donations from colleges and universities.

After seeing an e-mail from Dartmouth College last year, AHS science teacher Jack Durancieu and Vaughn drove to Hanover, N.H., in July to pick up the donations. While there, the pair asked if there was glassware and other electrical equipment.

"The technicians were very generous," Vaughn wrote. "Jack and I filled up the car with centrifuges, spectrum 20s, motors, vacuum pumps and many pieces of glassware for chemistry and biology classes."

He estimated the replacement costs at more than \$5,000.

Last fall, Bentley College put out an e-mail asking schools if they wanted old physics equipment.

"Jack and I filled the car once again," he wrote. "Because some of the equipment was so large, I

returned on another day with a maintenance truck to pick up large pieces, such as an incubator and air tracks for physics."

Estimated replacement costs: about \$3,000.

In December, science teachers Nadine Solomon, Don Bockler, Durancieu and Vaughn helped clean out a closed lab at MIT.

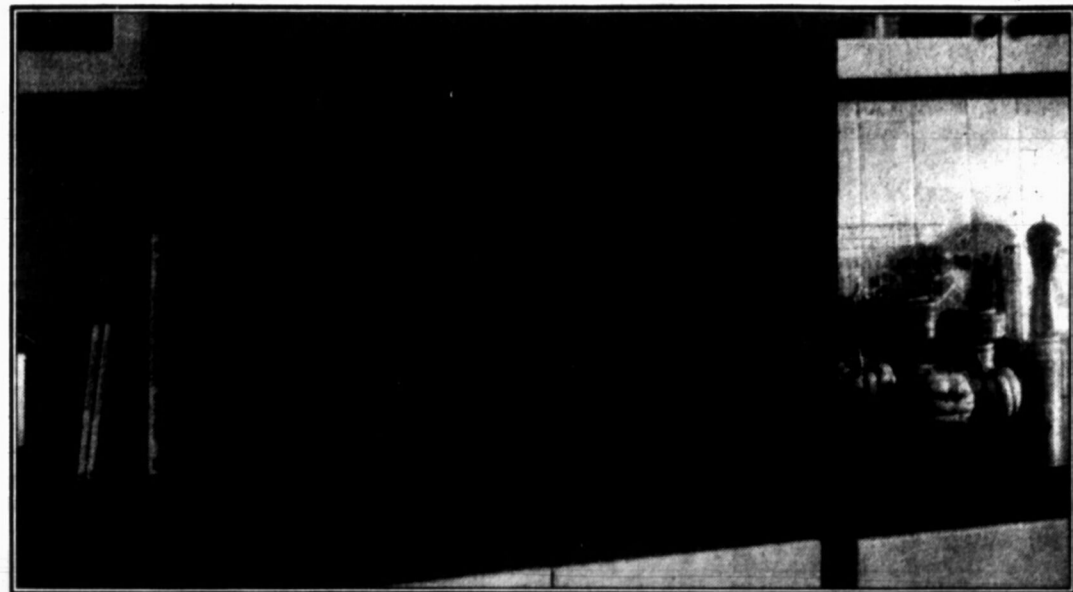
"We filled three cars with very useful scientific equipment," he wrote. "Some of the materials had never been used. We hope to return on another weekend to finish the clean out."

He estimates the material's worth new at about \$10,000. Two electronic scales alone would cost \$4,200, he wrote.

"This equipment is like a grant," he wrote. "The materials will help to supplement our science program at Arlington High School. However, some of the equipment and material we would not ordinarily ask for because of the expense. Now that we have the materials, we can add to our science lessons. But our regular budget for supplies should not be reduced due to this aid."

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SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

Week of Jan. 7

Monday

Sausage, egg and cheese biscuit, potato puffs, orange juice.

Tuesday

Jumbo taco, tomato, cheddar, salsa, rice, corn.

Wednesday

BLT roll up sandwich, sun chips, cookies.

Thursday

Grilled tuna and cheese, onion rings, pineapple.

Friday

Baked stuffed chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans.

Sandwiches, salad, pasta, stir fry, grill and daily specials also offered daily. Fruit, vegetable, bread and milk served with all meals.

ELEMENTARY

Monday

Waffle sticks, potato puffs, grape juice; chicken nuggets, dipping sauce, rice, peas; veggie burger, lettuce, tomato, yogurt, juice bar.

Tuesday

Corn dog, baked beans, juice bar; chicken nuggets, dipping sauce, rice, peas; pasta with tomato sauce, salad, multigrain roll.

Wednesday

French bread pizza, green beans, apple sauce; hot dog, pretzel, pears; egg salad pita sandwich, pretzel, pears.

Thursday

Tuna sandwich, pretzels, celery sticks; chicken nuggets, dipping sauce, rice, green beans; toasted cheese sandwich, pasta salad, peaches.

Friday

Fresh fruit salad, bagel, cream cheese, juice bar; calzone, rice, veggie sticks and dip; personal pan pizza, tossed salad.

Fruit, vegetable, bread and milk served with every meal.

ON CAMPUS

• **Daniel Shovlin** of Arlington, a sophomore at Northeastern University College of Engineering, has been awarded a Legacy Scholarship.

Up to 20 freshman are chosen each year for the Legacy Scholarship, a renewable grant of \$5,000 annually. Recipients receive the award for five years, but are required to maintain a grade-point average of 3.0 and a successful history of cooperative education experience.

• **Michael Dove**, an Earlham College first-year student and son of John and Gloria Dove of Arlington, performed in Earlham's winter concert on Dec. 8.

Dove is a member of the Concert Choir, which presented "How Can I Keep from Singing," "Rytmus," and "When David Heard."

The following are students who made the honor roll at Otton Middle School for the first quarter.

Class of 2006

First Honors

Joseph Michael Albanese, Hannah Nesbit Allen, Elizabeth Jennifer Augoste, Samantha Marie Aupperlee, Rachael Janna Bird, Mara Sophia Birkerts, Rachel Anne Blair, Seth Richard Botos, Robert Alfred Bowman, Benjamin Braude Brooke, Rachel Graciella Burns, Lori Anne Callahan, Jillian Ruth Chernoble, Stephanie Grace Clemens, Alex Leaman Clos, Caitliff Marie Collins, Edward Paul Cooper, Erin Marie Davenport, Arielle Rose Degenring, Elizabeth Ashley Diamandis, Tai Pullman Diamond, Meagan Elizabeth Doherty, Shaina Ruth Drury, Erin Dianne Duke, Leila Catherine Duncan, Porsha Lenae Eden, Joseph Martin Fahey, Annie Jane Fallon, Giulia Anne Felsher, Casey Ryan Flynn, Benjamin Maxwell Forbes, Amanda Jo Formica, Christopher Steven Gillan, Travis Sebastian Gitlin-Rich, Elsa Jane Gonsiorowski, Andrew Kirwan Goode, Mia Rose Grossman.

Samuel Sang Hai, Peter Kameel Haleem Garas, Rachel Hannah Hamilton, Ceri Joan Rose Higgs, Christina Marie Hughes, Elizabeth Sarah Irwin, Diana Israeli, Daniel Jacob Jaffe, Derek Steven Johnson, David Adam Jokinen, Michael Aaron Jokinen, Daniel James Jordan, Emma Akgad Kazarian, Benjamin Barrett Kusiak, James Paul Leary, Michael Donham Leonard, William John Leva, Amelita Autumn Lijek, Angelo Y-S Luo, Allison Doo Mayer, Sarah Elizabeth McHugh, Kelly Arline McManus, Keith Matthew McNally, Maryanne Keefe Meadows, Joshua Daniel Montana, Jason Ryan Morse, Jacqueline Elizabeth Murphy, Lindsay Elizabeth O'Grady, Rory Mariana Page, Michael Joseph Paladino, Zachary Edward Pattison-Gordon, Christina Elizabeth Peora, Rachel Grace Phillips, Brendan Patrick Phillips, Brigid Louise Pierce, Ian Joseph Provenzano.

Philip Christopher Rachwal, Matthew Thomas Roberts, Erik Francis Rothfuchs, Jeffrey Dunn Rovinelli, Madeline Roberta Ryan, Anna Miriam Sachs, Meghan Stafford Salocks, Blake Anthony Sama, Peter William Samko, Diana Janelle Schwamb, Bo Shang, Haley Sara Slafer, William Frederick Smith, Natalie Barbara Southwick, Alanna Marie Spero, Will Benjamin Stamell, Amanda Jay Sullivan, Michael Edmund Taglieri, Selene Bongianini Takats, Michael James Talarico, Victoria Lee Thompson, Samantha Ann Travers, Liam James Twomey, Patrick Ryan Twomey, Leonid

Samuil Vassershteyn, Mark Chester Vecchione, Jessica Sui Ting Wah, Annie Coleman Weathers, Samantha Christine White, Gina Bridgia Willms, Ancela Pelosi Winslow, John Edward Zurek.

Second Honors

Perry Louise Band, John Thomas Casey, Eric Anthony Di Domenico, Timothy Galen Dineen, Jeffrey Charles Ellis, Ben Lewis Forman, Tianna Antoinette Groves, Erin Patricia Madden, Adam Takashi Mansfield, Brendan Francis McNamara, Taylor Lee Miller, Paul Michael Norano, Sonia Rebecca Oram, Corey Leigh Percival, Jing Bai Qin, Thomas Michael Rielly, Shawn Quinn Rosie, Sandra Farid Sorby, Gregory Lenox Storch, Ryland Miller Tinsley, Charles James Toomey.

Class of 2007

First Honors

Nicholas Philip Adams, Nicholas Stephen Amrose, Brittany Ellen Bartlett, Agnes Elizabeth Beckmann, Ritwik Bhat-tacharya, Sonja Kathleen Boet-Whittaker, Derek Wilson Bolton, Rachel Lyn Botos, Maxim Pavlovich Bouzinov, Louis Suter Bowers, Madeline Chapnick Brambilla, John Kehoe Breslin, Hazel Linn Briner, Christine Marie Brydges, Rachel Anna Buonaiuto, Derek Richard Burns, Lauren Ann Byrne, Erin Elizabeth Campbell, Kristin Mary Carney, Blake Taylor Carpenter, Abigail Elizabeth Carter, Alexandra Evans Carver, Jeffrey Chevoor Chin, Ashley Rose Cichon, Matthew Patrick Clarke, John Marshall Coglianesi, Keely Lynne Collins, Robert Michael Conroy, Sean Joseph Conroy, Allison Marie Corman-Vogan, Michael Robert Covino, Michaela Cravotta-Crouch, Brianna Marie Cronin, Miriam Elizabeth Cross, Martin William Cuddy, Alyson Leigh Cummings, Nicola Isabel Cuoco.

Ashley Michelle Dawson, Jacqueline Rose Devigne, Melissa Melanie Dorian, Devan Elise Doherty, Brianna Elizabeth Donahue, Daniel James Downing, Amber Dianne Duet, Meghan Christine Dunn, Graham William Fallon, Julie Marie Dilosi, Michael William Fitzgerald, Shannon Rebecca Funkhouser, Dianna Bessmer Garten, Karl Emanuel Gibson, Anna Ruth Gonsiorowski, Konstantin Alekseyevich Gorbunov, Solana Rene Goss, Luke Andrew Graham, Amanda Grop-per, Marina Kameel Haleem Garas, Susan Xuan Man, Hannah Rockefeller Harris, Kevin Michael Hart, Ella Nicole Biewe Hartenian, Madeline Ruth Hickman, Sarah Margaret Hurd, Ryan Skye Hurley, John Teele Pratt Jackson III, Nicholas Peter Jones, John Wesley Judd, Matthew Patrick Keefe, Julie

Christine Keveny, Benjamin Beiser Kiely, Michaela Brie Noel Kinlock, Victoria Jakes Knobloch, Robert John Largent, Jesse Axelrod Lehigh, Paul John Leone, Jenien Lim, Nathaniel James Lim, Alexander Keegan Linden, Michael Arthur Loud.

Samantha Marie MacDonald, Julia Cohen Mackler, Rebecca Anne Malouf, Daniel Lutwak Maser, Hannah Beiris Matheson, Vanessa Wentworth Matos, Rachael Eliza Mayer, Rose Margaret McCabe, Michael Joseph McDermott, Molly Rose McDowell, Sara Michelle McTighe, Lindsey Elizabeth Mills, Jessica Sharon Montana, Victoria Moria Moran, Rachel Ann Murray, Olivia Zoe Nathanson, Clare Michaela Newman, Richard Prentiss Newton, Nhu-Y Thi Nguyen, Sandra Corinne Nicolara, Jaclyn Kate O'Brien, Robert Michael Ouellette, Christine Marie Paradis, Rachee Lee Parkin, Anjali Smailesh Patel, Thomas James Payne-Tobin, John Thomas Picazio, Ana Daniela Portillo, Jacob Duncan Potter, Thomas Joseph Reidy.

Zachary Kevin Roche, Daniel Henry Russoniello, Lena Schoemaker, Elias Devlin Schultz, Kelsie Ann Shea, Leah Wang Shesler, Cara Arezzo Slaby, Jaclyn Renee Smith, Zoe Elizabeth Stachel, Keron Amanda Stueve, Brendan Mark Sullivan, Elise Hannah Sullivan, Grace Catherine Sullivan, Lisa Nicole Taglieri, Anna Christina Tarkington, Natasha Setta Tchamitchian, Derek Robert Thomas, Marie Irene Tosa, Richard Bradford Tramontozzi, Bridget Eliza Treco, Yana Catherine Vierboom, Erica Lynne Walkinshaw, Matthew Edward Warren, Catherine Margaret Weber, Elizabeth Loveday Weber, Helen Penniman Weeks, Erika Elizabeth Weisz, Kyle Whelan, Ellen Elizabeth Willemin, Colin Garrity Willey, Aaron Benjamin Wolf, Casey Elisabeth Yee, Gaetano Ross Zagami.

Class of 2007

Second Honors

Elizabeth Grace Ales, Pauline DiGregorio Barr, Kristina June Brooks, Joseph Douglas Byrne, Robin Elizabeth Bzura, Melanie Beth Christo, Rebecca Edwards Eberle, Theresa Kathryn Femia, Emily Louise Ferola, Kayla Flynn, Kerry Jean Flynn, Matthew Daniel Griffin, Iris Remmy Harris, John Preston Hicks, Billy John Hronas, Kevin Donlin Hurley, James Joseph Johnson, Alicia Marie Jones, Courtney Ann Kerins, Arielle Hannah Klein, Kendra Josephine Mahon, Angela Jean Mascioli, Patrick Sean McLaughlin, Matthew Murray, Hannah Jo Rosselli, Andrew Don Roussinos,

Matthew Adam Taber, Shawn Brendan Wallace, Benjamin Brandt Wheatley.

Class of 2008

First Honors

Katherine Loretta Adams, Emily Marie Allen, Brooke Alana Anderson, Samuel Richard Atlas, Galen Hanson August, Ceoille Joan Avila, Nafun Razzaq Awal, Ryan Jose Baatz, Ryan William Baker, Olivia Elizabeth Baldwin, Ben Issac Barkan, Diana Ashley Bartash, Joshua Seward Bell, Luke Arthur Berry, Chloe Marie Beverly, James Andrew Billingsley, Felicia Marie Bishop, Timothy Joseph Boisvert, Raquel Alves Boudreau, Rebecca Elizabeth Brown, Caitlin Marie Buckley, Meghan Elizabeth Buckley, Stephen Kerins Carmody, Lauren Elizabeth Carney, Stephanie Carson, Vanessa Jane Chanliau, Lauren Elizabeth Chap-pell, Joseph Winchell Childs, Daniel John Chin, David Mariano Clarke, Margaret Grace Clayton, Andrea Lauren Colbert, Elisa Collin, Donald George Conroy, David Matthew Correll, Jessica Ilana Couture, Alexander Eugene Cuff, Jean Yee Dao, Joseph Michael DeAlmeida, Mary Lowery Decamp, Laura Elizabeth Decelles, Patrick Ryan Doherty, Lauren Casey Donnellan, Timothy Gerard Donnelly, Colin James Donoghue, Stephanie Anne Downing, Kyle Eugene Duke, Laura Nikkel Dumvahn, Samuel Hammond Duncan, Madeline Margaret Eagan.

John Paul Fichera, Joyce Austen Fienman, Sarah Louise Fischer, Kyle Allen Fitzsimmons, Benjamin James Flavin, Miranda Ellen Ruth Forman, Rebecca Elaine Gage, Maya Rose Galen, Laura Elizabeth Gillan, Jonathan Gomes, Joseph Paul Granato, Adam Lothrop Graves, Sardis Honoria Harward, Ryan Havern Hegarty, Marcela Hejzlar, William Mychael Hickey, Kieron Gordon Higgs, Christian Brady Horvath, Kathryn Legere Hueber, Christopher Michael Hughes, Nicholas Adams Jackson, Paul Isaac Jaffe, Robert Paul Jamgochian, Jessica Margaret Jannetti, Jacqueline Rose Jones, Catherine Mary Joyce, Sharniece Marie Joyner, Erin Elizabeth Kelly, Morgan Elizabeth King, Gregory Burns Kita, Jennifer Lee Kostigen, Madeleine Kotiuga, Rebecca Ellen Kraz, Jordan Nicholas Laflamme, Natalie Truda Larson, Daniel William Leary, William Kanguk Lee, Nathaniel Ferriss Leich, Fernanda Casami Macedo, Joshua Cohen Mackler, Maya Jean Marin, Rebecca Diane Mahon, Samantha Nicole Maldard, Justin Brogan, Mansfield, David Lyle Marquis, Kate Amy Martin, Edward Checota McDon-ald, Caroline Rebecca McHugh,

Francis Michael McNamara, Robert Evan McWatters.

Jessica Nicole Michelson, Donald Edward Mitchell, Jerachmeelle Jersuila Moise, Andrew Gerard Moscaritolo, Anthony Peter Mott-la, Angela Gabriella Moraca, Nicole Virginia Murphy, Concetta Grace Nicoloro, Eric Joseph Norberg, Michael Paul O'Brien, Melissa Kathryn O'Connell, Caroline Eileen O'Riordan, Lisa Emily Packard, Michaela Rose Palmer, Justin Hage Pepple, Matthew Richard Provenzano, Zachary Alan Pustejovsky, John Tyler Rear-don, Nicholas Repole, Julia Mary Rocha, Maria Briana Rose, Elisabeth Julia Rosenthal, Jill Marie Rothfuchs, William Oathout Ruty, Rosalie Nelson Sard, Miles Alexander Sarill, Max Thomas Shaller, Veronica Shurgalin, Katherine Sophia Smith, Ellen Jean Sophis, Lindsay Frederick Southwick, Jacquelyn Brooks Sweet, Nicholas George Tate, Vann Steven Taylor, Erin Elizabeth Tegan, Christine Marie Tibbetts, Mary Grace Tinsley, Melissa Maggie Trico, Anastasia Anastasios Tserkonis, Sarah Ashley Val-larelli, Victoria Lee Valley, Shawdeen Caitlin Vatan, Jacquelyn Joan Vaz, Maria Verikios, Ana Isabel Voci, Katherine Sui Fang Wah, Evan Charles Warrington, Kathryn Margaret Wassam, Lucas McKenna Weaver, Claire Elyse Weinberg, Emma Adelaide Whitford, Jason Chu Wai Young, Xiny Zhang, Leana Marie Zona.

Second Honors

Thomas Robert Andrews, Helen Tamara Azizian, Charles Henry Balyozian, David Matthew Balyozian, Michael Lawrence Bartlett, Shannon Christina Bearden, Karem Mustpha Bouhafs, Kalman Samuel Cagan-Teuber, Nathaniel Holland Cubeta, Kelly Ann Curran, Patrick William Danylik, Caitlin Marie Doherty, Hannah Coolidge Doherty, John Augustine Fahey, Jonathan Even Feinmann, Brian Doherty Flynn, Mikkel Erik Flynn, Richard Drian Gallagher Jr., Vanessa Michelle Greene, Joseph Walsh Hartr, Elizabeth Joy Harris, Rebecca Lorraine Harris, Carol Iolanthe Huben, Ryan Christopher Imposimato, Daniel Sean Kamensky, Jeremy Alexander Kasparian, Chaim Charles Kuot, Sarah Amal Kurdi, Erika Davidovich Kuzmick, Kelly Ann Larabee, William Robert Markussen, Kevin Christopher McKenzie, Matthew James McLellan, Vitola Artur Mici, Molly Bernadette Milliken, Ryan Joseph Murphy, Erica Amelia Naser, Shakira Jewell Neal, Katherine Xenopoulos, Conor Brendan Newman, Pamela Camille Perri-mon, Matthew Pisano, Robert Walter Reeves, Kayla Ann Roberts.

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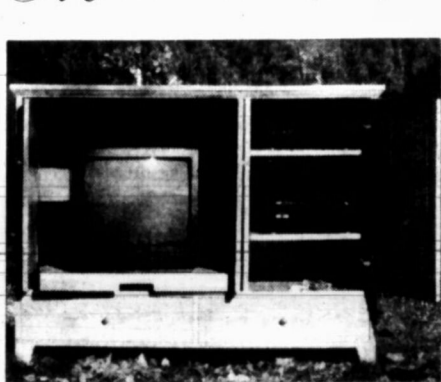
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COMMENT

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Samuel Wilson

EDITORIAL

Permanent lighting not answer for trail

Following the recent indent assaults on the Donald R. Marquis Minuteman Trail, many in town have turned their attention to the path and how it has changed from a recreational spot to a transportation artery.

Officials are exploring whether to add lighting along the path in East Arlington from the Cambridge line to Varnum Street and snow plowing from the line to Arlington Center.

• Selectman Diane Mahon and State Sen. Robert Havern have both promoted the lighting cause. After a call from Mahon, Havern received temporary flood lights from MassHighway to illuminate the darkened area from the bridge that crosses Alewife Brook to Thorndike Field.

Havern is also eyeing permanent lighting from the Cambridge line to Varnum Street. The state senator believes a combination of funds from NStar, MassHighway, and the MBTA could pay to install seven or eight poles.

In light of the five assaults, the two think lighting the path would make things safer for those who walk the trail at night. For many, the path is their form of transportation from the Alewife MBTA station to their homes. The station is also the spot where the alleged attacker has spotted some of the women who he eventually indecently assaulted.

The issue of lighting is a touchy one.

When the path opened in 1992, according to Selectman Kathleen Kiely-Dias, the selectmen agreed to maintain trail neighbors' privacy and not install lighting. Now, nearly 10 years later, some in town would like to see lighting for at least the East Arlington corridor.

After the attacks, officials would like to assure trail users' safety. Police have stepped up patrols on the path and nearly caught the suspect last month. However, the man struck an MBTA officer in the Alewife station and fled the area.

The Advocate supports the temporary lighting, but we have concerns as to the ramifications permanent lighting would have on the neighbors. Instead of permanent lighting, we believe the town should keep the temporary lighting during the winter months for residents who commute from the Alewife station.

The sun sets before many commuters leave work in the winter and we feel the town should assure their safety. The issue of lighting becomes less of a problem in the summer months, when it doesn't get dark until 9 p.m.

• On the subject of snow removal, one plan discussed would mean plowing from the Cambridge line to Arlington Center. However, we feel that is not equitable.

If the town decides to plow the path, The Advocate believes it should remove snow along every inch of the path — from the Cambridge to Lexington line. This, of course, could be too costly, but it's the only fair way to take care of snow removal.

Currently, the MBTA plows the easternmost portion of the Arlington segment of the path, but the Board of Selectmen directed Town Manager Phil Farrington to study plowing a greater portion of the Minuteman Trail.

Farrington said recently that a sidewalk plow is in the town's capital budget request for next year, but he believes it will not last through the round of reductions. This means that, even if the town decides to clear snow from the path, the equipment will not be there to handle the job.

When discussing snow removal, the next issue is liability. If the town plows the trail, this could cause a false sense of security for those who bike the path. New England winters could drop a foot of snow, followed by 40-degree temperatures and subsequent melting and then sub-freezing temperatures, which would turn the melting snow into ice. This could cause hazards for those who ride the trail.

Plowing the path does not insure clear cycling and we're not convinced it's a good idea.



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Giving thanks, establishing resolutions

So... what resolutions are you going to make?

Well, I'll give up 40-50 pounds, sugar, flour, overeating, eating while doing anything else, sloppy clothes, swearing, bossing, losing my cool, blaming, ignoring my cat, and forgetting God. I won't change plans, be late, or put people on hold.

I'll dress well, work

harder, vacuum, prepare lessons, organize finances, and brush my teeth more and the cat's teeth too. I'll smile, be polite, say "no" without yelling.

I'll ask God more often about how to find patience, peace and joy or to live with sadness and loss. Those feelings! Are they too painful to have to live with? How much can we bear? What's balance? What's normal? What's chronic? If I fight those feelings, I'll get stuck with those feelings compounded with addiction or denial that I add to the mix.

But have I thought about what truly matters? Ok, friends, my cat, plans, walks, peace, real listening, health and joy. Love, mental, physical, awareness, aliveness, joy, participation, possibility!

What I mean is what really matters? God, human rights, full attention, (jargon: staying in the room), attention to my "here and now" cat. What really matters is my ability to create including the circumstances.

I'll teach to the MCAS test, but show math as a life management tool.

A clean organized house... Does that really

matter? It does help me function better. An organized consulting business: I could quit that, but it's a gift. I think it comes from a higher power (I dare to call it God in public) and the training I have (another gift). There's the dilemma of how to use our gifts. I have a job to do to move from theoretical to actual, to create something or however my efforts turn out.

To cherish life (underscored by Sept. 11), to say "yes, thank God," to whatever comes my way, good and bad, "yes" to my evidence that that God is there so much I can't ignore a chance to participate. But I can't keep up with it all. Again, God may help me set priorities.

There's the news. How much do I need to know? How can I express my sympathy to those who are suffering in the Middle East and for those who have lost dear ones and for those suffering from economic downturn? Such sadness. What can I do when I'm not perfect? Do I have to be perfect to make a difference? Duh! No!

How can I use kindness and service? I wonder when to speak up, when to Let Go and Let God. But then what to do about the person who pulled a fast one? Is he so desperate that I should understand and forgive? Or do I stand up for my rights? I think in constant dichotomies.

I want to express incredible gratitude for the beauty around us in Arlington. We have the bike path, Spy Pond, the library, Cyrus Dallin, the lovely presentations by the historical society, the people here, The Boys and Girls Club available for all levels of ability, the services for elders, the fire, police, public health departments, who really care, clubs

that do good works here, our selectmen who spend hours contributing to the well-being of our town, the School Committee and teachers who spend hours making this town a great place to for all ages, and the custodians who support the buildings.

Then there are the opportunities in Arlington to volunteer, participate, and work with the Senior Center, Human Rights, Public Works, Conservation, Vision 2020, The Arlington Friends of the Drama, the choirs, opportunities to exercise and dance, and wonderful neighborhood organizations Arlington.

My strategy is to create tension between what's so and what I want to create. Robert Fritz, who wrote "The Path of Least Resistance," has trained me. I want to look at current reality, choose my desired goals, honor the discrepancy, and bring about results that I choose and also those results that show up in the process. Given are holiday fun, sadness and fear. I want to act directly toward what's important to me.

How about you? Why not give it a try? What do you want? What are the current realities around what you want to create? What actions are you willing to take to create what matters to you? It often works in the most miraculous way. Choose helplessness or what truly supports you. You have so much to do. Thank God. Thank this country where we can freely express ourselves, even when we don't know how.

Happy New Year and best of luck to you. I feel so blessed that this is the life I have, here in Arlington with you.

Liz Blumenthal is an Arlington resident.

Guest Commentary

LIZ BLUMENTHAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Issues with lights

Whenever considering lighting the Donald R. Marquis Minuteman Trail for security purposes, we should think about whether the light really makes a difference or even helps. More light will allow assailants to better evaluate their potential victims, are they a man or a woman, strong looking or weak or a policeman. More light will help an assailant see if there is anyone else coming who might interrupt their assault.

The light is only going to make a difference if there is someone watching who is going to come to the rescue or call for help. Other than lighting underneath the Route 2 bridge, I don't think lighting will make a safety difference. Once past Route 2, it is easy to get to lighted streets if that will make one feel safer. What would definitely help would be to have an occasional nighttime patrol of the path by police on foot.

If there is any lighting added, it should be full cutoff lighting (shielding so that the bulb is not directly visible from a distance), which reduces glare and helps preserve people's night vision so they can see into shadows. If it could be triggered by a motion sensor, that would be helpful too, so that it would not have to be continuously on.

Personally, I find that there is enough light from sky glow and adjacent properties to be able to easily see when walking on the Minuteman Trail at night.

Duke Briscoe
Belknap Street

Lighting needed

I found myself quietly cheering Dec. 17, as I watched Selectman Diane Mahon speaking

out for increased public safety on the Donald R. Marquis Minuteman Trail at the Board of Selectmen's meeting.

As a woman who travels the bike path on my daily commute to work, I am extremely concerned, not only for my personal safety, but for the safety of the nearly 1,000 commuters who travel the path each working day.

The recent sexual assaults were committed against women, but men could equally become the victims of violent assault on what is generally a dark section of the trail, from the Rte. 2 bridge to the Thorndike Field parking lot.

I applaud Diane Mahon and our State Sen. Bob Havern for responding proactively to this public safety danger with their proposal to better light the path from the Rte. 2 bridge to Varnum Street, where commuters can travel with the help of street lights.

Public officials should lead in time of crisis. I thank Sen. Havern and Selectman Mahon for providing the needed leadership to make our commute a safe one.

Stacie Hurst
Brooks Avenue

Responds to letter

A letter to the editor in the Dec. 27 Advocate ["Not satisfied"] wonders why Rep. James Marzilli's district wasn't "ripped apart" in recent redistricting. She imagines Marzilli must have cooked up a deal with House Speaker Thomas Finneran. If true, that scenario would warrant the front page.

In support of this claim, the writer says Marzilli responded to Finneran only after the redistricting plan was made public. Not so. Those familiar with Jim's questioning nature cannot let that pass.

I encourage all to look at a page at the town's Web site: <http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/polnws.htm>. The page quotes an e-mail Rep. Marzilli sent to the Arlington e-mail list on the morning of Oct. 23.

The redistricting map Marzilli voted for includes Reps. Paulsen and Kaufman, none of whom are known to be in Tommy's back pocket.

Bob Sprague
Webmaster
Arlington Online

Census survey

"I wonder if you really read these comments." So wrote one person on the census insert survey she (or he) returned in January 2001.

Yes, Virginia, we do read your comments. A handful of volunteers tally all the replies and compile the comments, organized by topic, for distribution to Town Meeting members at the beginning of Town Meeting.

You may think that tallying hundreds of surveys becomes tedious, but it is interesting to see the trends developing — "will taxes beat out traffic as a hot issue this year?" — and the write-in comments are even more interesting. The great majority are thoughtful; many cite well-known problems, but some can be eye-openers for the average person, e.g. "wheelchair accessibility for voting."

And then there are a handful that can generate anything from a double-take to a chuckle to a good laugh. I'd like to share a few of my favorites (culled from the last two years), for amusement and perhaps, for a few people, for enlightenment.

"This is despicable — tying the return of this

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

The Arlington Advocate

Office: 9 Meriam Street
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Mission statement

It is the goal of The Arlington Advocate to provide our readers with the highest quality local coverage they desire and need in a newspaper that is accurate, timely and filled with an intimate and lively portrait of the community in which they live, work and play.

ADMINISTRATION:

Kathleen Cordeiro, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Phone: (781) 674-7726
E-mail: kathleen@townonline.com

Jesse Floyd, MANAGING EDITOR
Phone: (781) 674-7751
E-mail: jfloyd@townonline.com

Kevin R. Convey, CIRCULATION CHIEF
E-mail: kconvey@townonline.com

NEWSROOM:

Les Masterson, EDITOR
Phone: (781) 674-7726
Fax: (781) 674-7735
E-mail: arlington@townonline.com

Walter Moynihan, SENIOR EDITOR
Phone: (781) 674-7724
Fax: (781) 674-7735
E-mail: arlington@townonline.com

Dana Fronczak, STAFF REPORTER
Phone: (781) 674-7729
Fax: (781) 674-7735
E-mail: dfronczak@townonline.com

Anne-Marie Smolski, CALENDAR EDITOR
Phone: (781) 674-7753
Fax: (781) 674-7735
E-mail: arlington.events@townonline.com

Photography
Photo coverage: (781) 674-7726
Reprints: (781) 321-5205

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Arlington, like the country, affected by September attacks

■ **YEAR IN REVIEW**, FROM PAGE 1

sculpted by Cyrus E. Dallin, one of the town's most famous residents, because of a fear of vandalism.

- The Department of Public Health confirmed the first positive test of the West Nile virus in a dead crow on Jason Street. It was sent to the DPH state lab where a battery of tests led to the confirmation.

Arlington Director of Public Health Marie Walsh said the bird is the first crow out of six that has tested positive this year. The closest positive results before Tuesday's discovery, reports the DPH, were in Medford and Newton.

- One of the Sudanese "Lost Boys" who escaped civil war and settled in Arlington is being held on \$50,000 bail after pleading not guilty to charges that he raped a 20-year-old Arlington woman.

Police arrested Majok D. Kachoul, 19, 11 Brattle St., Apt. 1, and charged him with rape and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon (a lighted cigarette).

According to police, the Arlington woman was walking on Brattle Street around 10 p.m. when she was approached by Kachoul. The man, who did not know the victim, started a conversation with the woman before he allegedly sexually assaulted her outside his home on Brattle Street, said Police Services Director Fred Ryan.

During the incident, Kachoul also burned the victim's hand with a lighted cigarette, according to police.

- Residents of Harlow Street, plagued by more power outages than almost anyone in recent weeks, nearly filled the aisles of the Selectmen's Board Room to register their complaints and demand immediate action.

Some 20 residents of the neighborhood, led by Raymond Lintz, showed up at the board meeting. Lintz said the neighborhood suffered at least eight power failures in recent weeks, some as long as 11 hours.

September

- In response to the recent arrest of a Sudanese refugee, who is being charged with rape, The National Alliance, a group that promotes white pride and criticizes the country's immigration policy, distributed some 300 to 400 leaflets in East Arlington, Arlington Heights, and the Gray Street area.

Many of those leaflets, weighed down with sand to prevent them from blowing, were picked up and thrown away by police in the early morning hours, an action that has generated some public scorn about censorship despite the racist nature of the literature.

- The Arlington High School Madrigal Singers performed after acting Gov. Jane Swift's half-hour speech on the "State of Education in the commonwealth" at Quincy High School.

The audience, full of state officials, mayors, and school administrators, just heard Swift give her first speech on education policy. The governor's office wanted something upbeat to end the afternoon event and chose AHS' Madrigal Singers.

- Arlington officials responded to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks by stepping up police presence and informing older students of the disasters.

Arlington Police Services Director Fred Ryan placed more officers on duty after Boston office buildings closed early.

The usually light traffic on a late Tuesday morning was replaced with rush-hour volume. Ryan called in the officers to coordinate traffic control in the Alewife area with Cambridge police. They also helped answer the high volume of calls to police, said Ryan.

- A week after terrorists crashed two planes into the World Trade Center, authorities reported that a

Falmouth Road man was found in the WTC's wreckage.

Joseph Mathai of 7 Falmouth Road is the first person from Arlington to die as a result of last week's events. Mathai was 49.

- Patriotism is on the rise and the symbol of national pride — the American flag — is as hard to purchase in Arlington as anywhere else these days.

But red, white, and blue were everywhere this week. They blew in the breeze on the fronts of cars, fluttered in the breeze from flag supports and hung from windows.

Arlington Flag and Banner on Massachusetts Avenue didn't have a single one. The Nguyens, a Vietnamese family that has owned the store since 1983, anxiously awaited their daily shipment from New Jersey-based Annan Corporation, knowing by the end of the day their handwritten signs in the front windows that said "U.S. Flags are Sold Out" would be true again.

- The community came together in a candlelight rally entitled "Arlington Stands Up Against Hate."

Originally scheduled as a response to hate flyers dropped on Arlington doorsteps, the event took on additional meaning after the disastrous events of Sept. 11.

The crowd was a mix of races and religions and included those supporting the war effort while others wanted peace. Police estimated the crowd at 2,500 and it stretched across Massachusetts Avenue and down to Academy Street and Court Street.

As darkness fell upon Arlington, American flags — handed out by the American Legion — were illuminated by candles — given out by the Arlington Human Rights Commission.

- With worries centered around "what we don't know," the Arlington School Committee refused to allow the Arlington High School Music Department's planned trip to Italy in February.

But the committee declined to endorse School Superintendent Kay Donovan's recommendation to cancel all out of state and international field trips for the entire school year, saying that they would evaluate each trip on a case-by-case basis.

- Old Glory made its impression felt as thousands of Arlingtonians separated themselves from their television sets and enjoyed the annual Town Day. Arlington residents showed their national pride by wearing ribbons, waving flags, and collecting money for the relief effort.

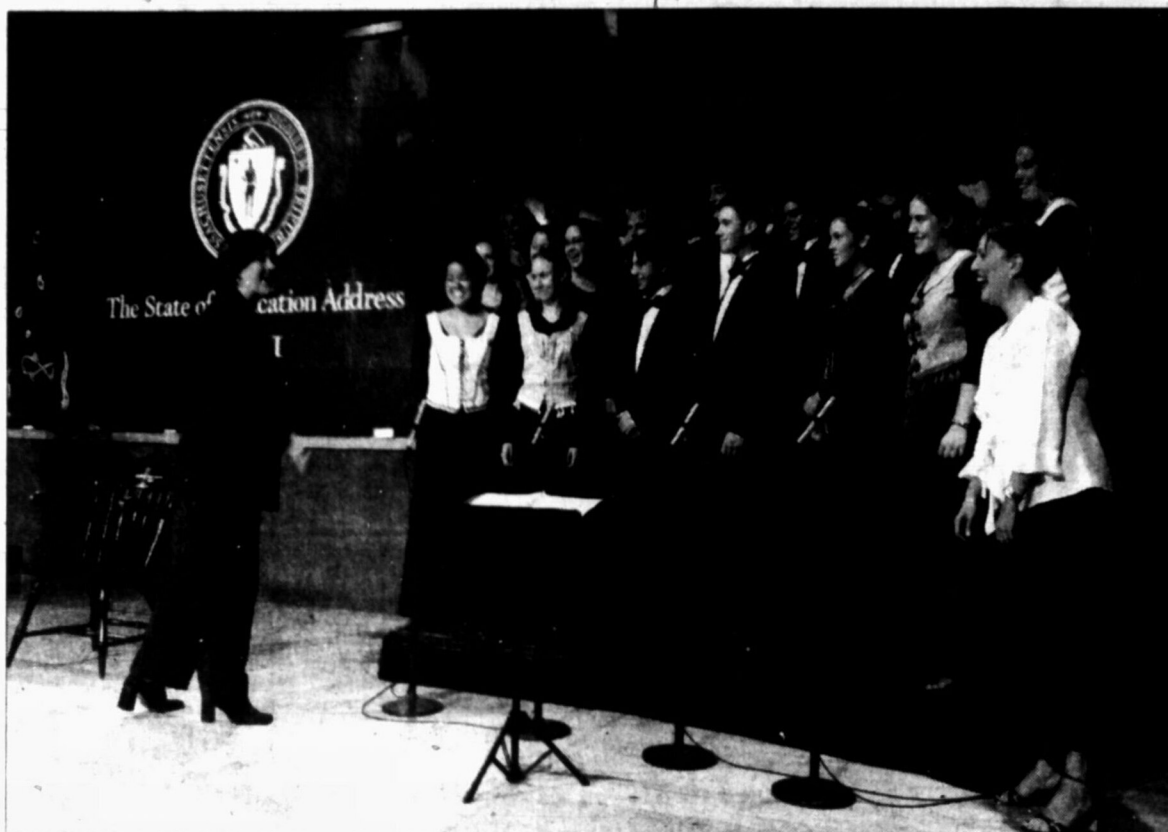
October

- State representatives voted on a redistricting plan which split Arlington into three districts starting in 2003.

Jim Marzilli, who held precincts 8-21, will now have 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15.



Baden Cooke of Australia celebrates his close victory over Russia's Vassili Davidenko during the men's race at the BMC Software Tour of Arlington in July.



Acting Gov. Jane Swift congratulates the Arlington High School Madrigal Singers after the group performed at her State of Education Address at Quincy High School in August.

16, and 18. Anne Paulsen, who represented 1-7, has been cut to 2 and 4. Meanwhile, Arlington also picks up a third representative, Lexington Democrat Jay Kaufman, who winds up with 14, 17, 20, and 21.

An earlier plan that was discussed but scrapped included Paulsen losing all seven precincts and then split between Cambridge Rep. Alice Wolf, Somerville Rep. Vincent Ciampa, and Marzilli.

- Town officials received a letter from a lawyer representing the McDonald's Corporation that withdrew the company's application to turn the Arlington Heights Boston Market into a fast-food restaurant.

Director of Planning and Community Development Alan McClellenn said Thomas Evans of the Boston law firm Cullen and Fierman formally withdrew the company's request to build a 53-seat McDonald's where the Boston Market now stands.

Withdrawing without prejudice means that, if McDonald's chooses, the company can still reapply to change the restaurant.

- Former Arlingtonian Gary Adelson bought the Regent Theater on Medford Street for \$1.9 million and is looking to spend "a lot of money" in refurbishing and rehabilitating the spirit and the body of the venue that opened in 1916.

- With specific plans for development "off the table," Archdiocese of Boston representatives proposing a housing development near St. Camillus Parish took a step back and tried to extend a hand to a still skeptical audience that they will accept community input.

The key expression of that extension will be a working group

consisting of numerous representatives from town government and a representative from the neighborhood group opposed to the project, the Friends of Poets Corner.

- Arlington Police and a local hazardous materials team responded to more than a dozen calls regarding suspicious packages and substances found in town. Two of the substances were forwarded to the Department of Public Health for testing.

The Arlington High School janitor staff found an envelope containing a substance on a heater in the main lobby.

The HazMat Response Team's metro Boston group responded, sealed off the area, and packaged the envelope. They then sent the substance and envelope to the state laboratory for tests.

Ryan said there is "no reason to believe that it is anything dangerous," adding that police are investigating the matter as a "suspicious condition."

November

- While taking a step back from its initial decision on traffic changes in the Jason Heights area, the Board of Selectmen Monday asked the Police Department to step up traffic enforcement in the area.

Selectman Diane Mahon said Jason Heights residents have suffered through years of frustration, where nothing has been done to solve their safety concerns.

- The Department of Environmental Protection informed the Conservation Commission and citizen activists that it overturned the commission's ruling and accepted the floodplain elevation utilized by Mugar Enterprises on the 17-acre property.

The Conservation Commission voted unanimously in July to refuse the 8.1-foot floodplain elevation used by Rizzo Associates, environmental consultant for Mugar Enterprises.

Members cited "inconsistent and conflicting information" that shows the floodplain height may in fact be higher. But members opted not to recommend their own number.

- The Pop Warner B and C Squad Cheerleaders competed in the New England Regional finals in Providence, R.I.

Neither were able to place in the top two, which would have meant a trip to Disney World for the national championship, but the teams achieved more than any other cheerleading team in Arlington Pop Warner history. They picked up the Greater Boston League titles and topped the Eastern Massachusetts competition.

- The Arlington school system will no longer allow its schools to charter Boy Scout troops following a 4 to 3 vote of the School

Committee.

The narrow vote ends the relationship between Scout Troop 388 and the Bishop School and Scout Troop 305 and the Stratton School as of January 2003. The committee pledged to help find another sponsor for the two troops affected.

In their decision, members Denis Sullivan, Joani LaMachia, Barbara Goodman and Paul Schlichtman could not reconcile the national Boy Scouts of America policy of excluding gays from their ranks with the local Minuteman Council's policy of anti-discrimination, which passed in July.

Members David McKenna, Suzanne Baratta Owayda and Martin Thrope voted against the motion.

- For the second straight year, Brackett Elementary School is tops in the state, according to MCAS results. It is also the third consecutive year that every Brackett student passed the exam.

In addition, the Stratton Elementary School ranked number one in third grade Reading as all 32 Stratton third graders were listed as "proficient."

According to Superintendent of Schools Kathleen Donovan, Arlington's fourth graders ranked seventh in the commonwealth.

In fourth grade, Brackett students compiled an average in the "advanced" range. Arlington's remaining elementary schools finished in the "proficient" level — with those schools separated by only a few points.

- Plans for a possible housing development on St. Camillus-owned property at Poets Corner may now include a compromise deal where a new fire station would be built adjacent to the housing units.

Board of Selectmen Chairman Charles Lyons said the Archdiocese of Boston Office of Planning for Urban Affairs proved "receptive" to the idea of including a new station to replace the dilapidated one now located on Park Avenue.

December

- The two Cub Scout packs affected by the Arlington School Committee's decision to end two elementary school's official relationship with the Boy Scouts will now be chartered by the First Baptist Church.

Both Cub Scout Pack 305 at the Stratton School and Pack 388 at the Bishop School will continue to meet at the schools until at least the end of the school year.

- School officials spoke in support of changing the kindergarten entry date to Aug. 31 at a forum held at the Hardy School.

Superintendent of Schools Kathleen Donovan said a combination of factors make the move a wise decision: The vast majority of Massachusetts districts have earlier cutoff dates (Arlington is cur-

rently Dec. 31); studies have shown that children with fall birthdays have a harder time in school; and Arlington's change to full-day kindergarten makes it more difficult for 4-year-olds to concentrate the whole day.

The superintendent also defended the idea by saying that many times the effects of sending a fall birthday child to kindergarten early is not seen until later school years. Those kids are more at risk during middle and high school years, she said.

- Another woman reported that she was indecently assaulted by a man, fitting a similar description to at least four other cases since Oct. 18.

Though the descriptions in the other incidents vary slightly, police described the man as black, around 5 feet, 5 inches, with a slim build, and wearing sports clothing and a knit hat.

According to police, the majority of known victims have been in their late-20s. All of the incidents either occurred or were initiated on the trail.

Police Services Director Fred Ryan issued a warning to women who walk on the Minuteman Trail to be aware of their surroundings both in front and behind them and, if possible, they should buddy up with other commuters.

- Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority Police were unable to apprehend the man believed to be involved in a rash of Minuteman Trail indecent assaults.

Arlington Police Officer Stephen Krepelka was patrolling the area in street clothes in the late afternoon when he spotted a man he believed to be the suspect on the trail in Cambridge. With the suspect not in his jurisdiction and heading toward the Alewife station, Krepelka called Cambridge and MBTA police after observing the man for a short time, according to Arlington police.

An MBTA officer approached the suspect in the station and asked him his name. The man provided a false name and then assaulted the officer, before fleeing the area, said Arlington police.

- The recent incidents on the Donald R. Marquis Minuteman Trail has caused advocates to press for consistent year-round maintenance of the bikeway and officials to reexamine whether the path is only a recreational resource or a true commuter thoroughfare.

Temporary measures to provide more lighting were obtained by State Sen. Robert Havern, who got two sets of temporary flood lights from MassHighway to illuminate the darkened area from the bridge that crosses Alewife Brook to Thorndike Field.

But the senator also wants to install more permanent lighting in the area and he said funding from three sources will pay to install seven or eight poles that would extend from the Arlington line to at least Varnum Street.

- A 57-year-old Medford Street man was sent to undergo psychological testing at Bridgewater State Hospital after he allegedly shot his roommate at least three times.

Police arrested Thomas Robert St. John, 95 Medford St., and charged him with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and armed assault with intent to murder.

- The town announced that it intends to purchase the 18.1-acre former Symmes Hospital site for \$7.1 million.

The purchase and sale agreement between the town and the Lahey/Advantage Partnership, composed of the Lahey Corporation and HealthSouth, was announced and signed at a press conference at the Symmes campus.

The agreement is dependent on the vote of Town Meeting, which Selectman Charles Lyons said will reconvene Monday, Jan. 14 to debate the sale.

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